Optimization Priorities to Address Additional Funding

The nature of environmental remediation work contains considerable risk from a cost and schedule perspective. Therefore, an important management requirement is understanding where additional acceleration could be achieved to minimize this risk. These acceleration opportunities are discussed in this Plan to demonstrate the Fernald team's commitment to putting additional funds to work in a productive, prioritized way, due to efficiency-based underruns or additional appropriations in any given year.

Figure 6 lists the priorities on which the Fernald team would focus to further accelerate work. The actions outlined in Figure 6 focus on critical path or near critical path work items.

The team considers it a top priority to focus on accelerating Silos 1&2 and Silo 3 implementation, because these are the highest health risk sources, and also contribute to the primary and secondary critical paths to the schedule. Therefore, as part of the 2006 closure baseline, the Silos Projects were given highest priority and fully funded at the accelerated pace.

With the silos subprojects fully funded in the plan, the next sequence of priorities for acceleration are:

- 1) Further acceleration of waste pit material excavation, processing, and off-site shipment.
- 2) Increased soil excavation and on-site waste placement rates. The current 2006 plan requires soil excavation and placement quantities in FY05 and FY06 that are significantly higher than have been experienced in the field to date. While these higher production rates are considered implementable, additional acceleration of soil excavation activities would more evenly distribute soil excavation and disposal quantities over the life of the production schedule.
- 3) Acceleration of the On-Site Disposal Facility capping (Cells 3 and 4) and liner construction (Cell 8).

Opportunities to Optimize the 2006 Closure Plan			
Priority	Subproject	Items Accelerated	Benefits
1	Waste Pits	 Accelerate excavation, processing, and shipment of waste pit material off- site to Envirocare 	Reduces risk of schedule growth that would impact the critical path
2	Soil Excavation	 Accelerate soil excavation in Area 3B (Plant 1 Pad) and Area 4B (western production area) 	 More evenly distributes annual soil excavation and disposal quantities to avoid FY05 and FY06 peak quantities that are significantly greater than any annual quantity placed to date
3	On-Site Disposal Facility	Accelerate construction of the Cell 8 liner and Cell 3 and Cell 4 caps	 This further reduces the risk related to pushing significant construction activities into FY05 and FY06, making resources available for excavation and placement

Figure 6: As additional funds become available, Fernald is poised to optimize several subprojects to reduce schedule risk and remove source terms early.